

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 05463 251154Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----046596 252357Z /75

R 251010Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2825

S E C R E T JIDDA 5463

EXDIS

FOR TWINAM FROM AMBASSADOR WEST

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, SA, US
SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR ERICH VON MARBOD FROM PRINCE SULTAN

THE FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER FROM PRINCE SULTAN
TO ERICH VON MARBOD TRANSLATED AND TRANSMITTED BY USMTM
SUBSEQUENT TO VON MARBOD'S DEPARTURE:

"GREETINGS:

"I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS
ADDITIONAL THINKING AND PLANS OF SAUDI ARABIA IN RELATION
TO OUR COOPERATIVE VENTURE TO INTRODUCE THE F-15 AIRCRAFT
INTO THE RSAF. WE WISH TO ADVISE YOU OF THINGS SO THAT,
ON BOTH SIDES, THERE IS A FULL UNDERSTANDING OF THE INTENTIONS
AND DESIRES OF SAUDI ARABIA IN THIS IMPORTANT PROGRAM.

"FIRST OF ALL, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT BOTH SIDES
UNDERSTAND THE BASING SCHEME FOR THE AIRCRAFT WHICH HAS
BEEN DECIDED UPON BY THE SAUDI SIDE. WE PLAN TO LOCATE THE
MAIN OPERATING BASES FOR THE F-15 AT DHAHRAN,
TAIF AND KHAMIS-MUSHAYT.

"SECONDLY, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT BOTH SIDES
UNDERSTAND THE SAUDI PLANS REGARDING THE
MODERNIZATION OF OUR FIGHTER FORCES. WE INTEND, IN GENERAL
ACCORDANCE WITH THE 1974 U.S. AIR FORCE SURVEY

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PAGE 02 JIDDA 05463 251154Z

RECOMMENDATIONS, IN THE NEAR TERM, TO SUPPORT EFFECTIVELY
A FORCE STRUCTURE CONSISTING OF F-5S ALREADY PURCHASED FROM
THE U.S. AND TO MODERNIZE THE FORCE BY REPLACING OUR EXISTING
LIGHTNING AIRCRAFT WITH THE 60 F-15S WHICH WILL BE PURCHASED
FROM THE UNITED STATES.

"FINALLY, THE SAUDI SIDE IS INTERESTED IN JOINT
COOPERATION TO CONTINUE IMPROVING THE OVERALL

SECURITY PROGRAMS OF THE RSAF. WE, THEREFORE, REQUEST THAT THE U.S. ENTER WITH THE SAUDI SIDE ON A PROGRAM DESIGNED TO REVIEW AND ENHANCE THE RSAF SECURITY SYSTEMS BEFORE THE F-15 IS DELIVERED TO THE RSAF. THE SECURITY PROGRAM WILL BE IN ADDITION TO PREVIOUS JOINT ARRANGEMENTS WHICH HAVE PROVIDED PROTECTION FOR U.S. MILITARY EQUIPMENT PREVIOUSLY SOLD TO SAUDI ARABIA. SULTAN BIN ABDUL AZIZ, MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND AVIATION AND INSPECTOR GENERAL."
WEST

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, TEXT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JIDDA05463
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780305-0868
Format: TEL
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780724/aaaaaubz.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9fc3676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1898500
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MESSAGE FOR ERICH VON MARBOD FROM PRINCE SULTAN THE FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER FROM PRINCE SULTAN TO ERICH VON MARBOD TRANSLATED AND TRANSMITTED BY
TAGS: MASS, SA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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